LETTERS - O DRAWER 26 MEETING LINCOLN -

71.2009.085.02192

Meeting Lincoln

Original letters describing encounters with the 16th President of the United States

Surnames beginning with

O

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.02192

Oakes Wm.

Philadelphia, Pa.

BELL, RITTENHOUSE 5382

KEYSTONE, RACE 3947

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Feb. 26th, 1932

Mr. H.K. Terry,
Busleton, Penna.

Dear Mr. Terry:-

I wish I could help you out with Uncle Abe. is some able way--the only things I have are pictures and books.

However, I have an olf friend--the name is Wm. Oakes, 260 So. 10th St. who saw Lincoln dead and alive. I 'Phoned him today telling him I would give you his name.

If you care to write him I know he will gladly give you any information you may desire with great pleasure.

He, too, was a great admirer of Abe Lincoln--the best of all.

Yours Respectfully,
A Maxwell F. Gilbert

Oakes, William
PENNYPACKER 1036

Philadelphia - Funeral

Philadelphia, Pa.

WILLIAM OAKES

REGISTERED

PLUMBING AND HEATING CONTRACTOR

260 SOUTH TENTH STREET

PHILADELPHIA

April 27th, 1932.

H. K. Terry
9528 Wisteria Street
Bustleton, Penna.

Dear Mr. Terry:

In answer to your inquiry on Lincoln, I was a boy of twelve years of age when Lincoln's body was brought to Philadelphia. The body laid in state in Independence Hall and the folks in Philadelphia got up very early that morning to view the remains of that great man. The line reached from Fifth & Walnut to Independence Hall and likewise another line on Chestnut. When I got there the line was pretty long, and if I had had to wait my turn it was possible that I would not have got in. But I ran along the line of the waiters and some kind hearted person pulled me in the line so I got in very early.

It was a great day in Philadelphia when a big hearse drawn by six black horses left Independence Hall to take the body to the railroad station. Of course being a small boy and a great lover of Lincoln which teaching I got from my mother and father I never will forget the night my father came home and brought the news of Lincoln's assassination. I sat up in bed and I guess I cried till daylight.

On another ocassion when Lincoln visited Philadelphia I saw him alive and later saw him dead. And I hope and pray that the good Lord will have mercy on his soul.

I remain

Yours very truly,

William Oakes

O'Brien, E., et al

Wisconsin

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU OF NATIONAL HOMES

NORTHWESTERN BRANCH

NATIONAL HOME, WISCONSIN
February 2, 1931.

TO Mr. Howard K. Terry, 9628 Wisteria St., Bustleton, Philadelphia, Pa.

SUBJECT: Members who knew Abraham Lincoln.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your letter of January 28th, there is enclosed herewith a list of members of this Home, all in Home Company #8, who either knew or saw Abraham Lincoln.

Yours very truly,

Colonel Chas. M. Pearsall
Governor.

Men who knew Abranham Lincoln

Edward O'Brien
Edward Carroll
John J.Leonard
William Starr
Daniel S.Southland
Michael Smith
Michael Hager
Franklin H.Holloway
Charles Grant
August Jonas
Thomas Shaffner
Charles Muzzy
Anthony Guimere
William Riley
Clarence Bridges
SilvanusPence
Adolph Schlight
John Andrews
Simeon Herring
Byron Tucker
Ogden Chidester

Thomas Barker. Sgt.Co.8
.....

#1

Janesville Wis Oct 20-31

H. K. Terry - Bustleton Philada Penn

Dear Sir I hope you will pardon me in my negligence in writing you regarding how much I know about honest old abe Lincoln I Seen the Dear old man once in my life that was in virginia when we were Stationed front of Petersburg va. Mr Lincoln was Reviewing the army of the Potomac in I think the month of February 1865 just before the army Started on its final Campaign that decided the results of both armies with the fall of both Petersburg and Richmond in that Great Struggle for Liberty and rights of humanity and homes of the greatest nation on earth To day we look back to those awful and dangerous days and nights of watching and weary waiting for the results of our Efforts to maintain our beloved countrys rights and restore to our people that which our forefathers fought and Suffered and bled for. Let us praise almighty god for his watchfulness over our rights with the fall of Petersburg and Richmond the Die was cast victory was Ours.

#2.

Mr Lincoln was horseback on His review he had a large body guard of Soldiers and officers all mounted The Curious part of it was Mr Lincoln was a very Tall man his Stature over 6 feet and he rode the Smallest Steed in the whole Lot his feet nearly touched the Ground.

I was in Company B-4, U.S. Artillery regular Army Service Enlisted for General Service I was assigned To Co B 4 art regular army 5 Army Corps ART Brigade regular 2nd General Termed Iron Brigade I think I am about the last of that Great brigade of fighters Here is left our battery was a 6 Gun battery 12 pound brass pieces, 160 men Commonly known among the brigade as Captain Stewarts 160 Thieves I was in the following named battles 2-Weldon R.R. 2-plank road fights 1-Chapin farm fight 1-Grand run fights 2-Hatches run fights 1-Fort Duchane fight Richmond & Petersburg Anal Five Forks } We won Every battle 11000 Prisoners } Over. Taken

(Light

No Guns fired at Afghanistan
Last Victory Old Glory Floated

O'Mara, Daniel A. Washington, D.C. Hospital New York, N.Y.

DANIEL A. O'MARA
255 WEST 108TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Mr. H. K. Terry
Bustleton Pa.

Dear Sir:

I enlisted in the 59th N.Y.V. on Sept 27 1861 as Drummer Boy and was discharged Sept. 27-64 I was born in N.Y. City April 12 1847 and therefore in my 85th year, I served in the Army of the Potomac Of course I saw Mr Lincoln when he reviewed the Army of the Potomac under Gen. McClellan, But when I looked into his Kindly face, thats another Story: a drummers duty during a battle is to care for

the Wounded, at the battle
of the Wilderness in May
1864, I with many others was
assigned to convey and care for
the wounded. We were
instructed to take them to
Aquia Creek, (a tributary of
the Potomac) The Wilderness is
about 14 miles S. W. of Fredricksburg
we had to go through the Later
City to reach Aquia Creek;
as though they came out of
the ground a company of
"Mosby's" men appeared.
They hustled about, cutting
the traces of the mules,

DANIEL A. O'MARA
255 WEST 108TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

placing all the well men and the drivers of the Ambulances in an old Car that stood on siding, Some one cried out (The Yanks are coming) and sure enough I saw a cloud of dust in the distance, just at that moment I put my head out of the Car, one of Mosbys men dashing by struck me a severe blow on the head, when I woke up I was on board of one of the Boats of the

Sanitary Commission, my
head in bandages. When I
reached Washington I had
the good fortune to be placed
in a hospital at 16th and E.
and one day while I was
there, the "Great Abraham
Lincoln" was announced, my
boyish heart was timid, and
I was afraid, He had a Kind
word for all, but when he reached
my Cot, and I looked into
his Kindly eyes, all fear had
left me. He sat beside my Cot
He enquired if could do anything
for me, and if I had a mother

DANIEL A. O'MARA
255 WEST 108TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

and if she knew of my
whereabouts.
And that is how I came
to meet the tenderest being
since Christ.

Daniel A. O'Mara

And thats why I low my head
or remove my hat, when his name
is mentioned. D. A. O'Mara

My dear Mr. Terry:

I was out of Town, when your letter came, please excuse the writing and the mistakes as I very nervous I cannot write as I used to

If you ever meet Bernard N- give him my regards,

very truly

D. A. O'Mara

Santa Fe. New Mex.
Feb-13-50

Dear Dr Warren,

This being President Lincolns birth day- We are both conscious of this notable date. I trust this letter will not be an imposition. I have something I should like to tell you. I was glad to get information of some one who was interested in Mr Lincoln, so am writing to you. about sixteen years ago- near as I can remember- a gentleman from New York. White Plains, I believe, wrote to my father- then about 82 years of age- asking him to write a personal letter describing his visit to Pres. Lincoln during the civil war. This I did for him. I do not recall the mans name - but it may have been Weems- or something near that. He was to have all Lincolns personal letters available to him, put in book form.

My father was too young to join the confederate army, as his two older brothers had done. Being orphans - caused by the yellow fever epidemic - they lived with their grandfather. They had an uncle named Snowden Pleasants, who was a prisoner of war - accused of being a spy. I do not know if that was true or not, but my father, then a small boy - went with his grandfather to see Pres. Lincoln, to ask him to set uncle Snowden free. This was always vivid in my fathers memory. They were southerners - living at Rockville Md - but they were loyal to Mr. Lincoln, and I never once in my life heard my father speak disparagingly of Mr. Lincoln. Pres. Lincoln pardoned the uncle - and he was released - but as he was leaving the prison at Baltimore some one gave him some poison to drink - so Mr. Pleasants passed on before he arrived home

I do not know how the gentlemen from White Plains knew of my fathers visit to see President Lincoln, unless there is a record in Washington of these visits. The story is true tho, and I thought I might pass it on to you —

My fathers name was John P. Orme of Phoenix Arizona - from 1877 to 1934 when he passed on —

Most sincerely yours —

(Miss) Ora D Orme

RD 1 - Box 12 - C

Santa Fe. New Mex.

Overstreet, Mrs. Galesburg
L.-D. Debates

My dear Mr. Jerry:

Your letter to my aunt, Mrs. Overstreet, came into my hands, for she has been dead a year in July. A letter in the book containing the account of the Freeport Lincoln-Douglas Debate is her recorded expression of the

8) chief interest to her on that day, the young man to whom she was engaged was one of a group who rode horseback in a cavalcade that met Lincoln near Galesburg and escorted him into the town when he went there for his 1858 debate with Douglas.

He spent the night in this town of Knoxville five miles east and South of Galesburg. My father, a little boy of six, remembers going to the town on that day and says that he heard Lincoln say, "Here, hold my hat

while I stone Steven!" but
I often wonder if he has
not heard the story from
others so often that he has
persuaded himself that he
heard Lincoln with his
own ears. I think he went
to sleep in the lumber wagon
during the two hours that
the debate was carried on...

When my mother was a little girl she once bought with "egg and butter money", a picture of Lincoln and his assassin. She heard so much talk of the horror of the dreadful crime and of the fate of Booth, that she tore up her precious picture and buried the scraps of paper in the ground. I've often thought that I should some day use that incident in a short story, but have not done so. This must have occurred in 65 or 66.

I will send your letter

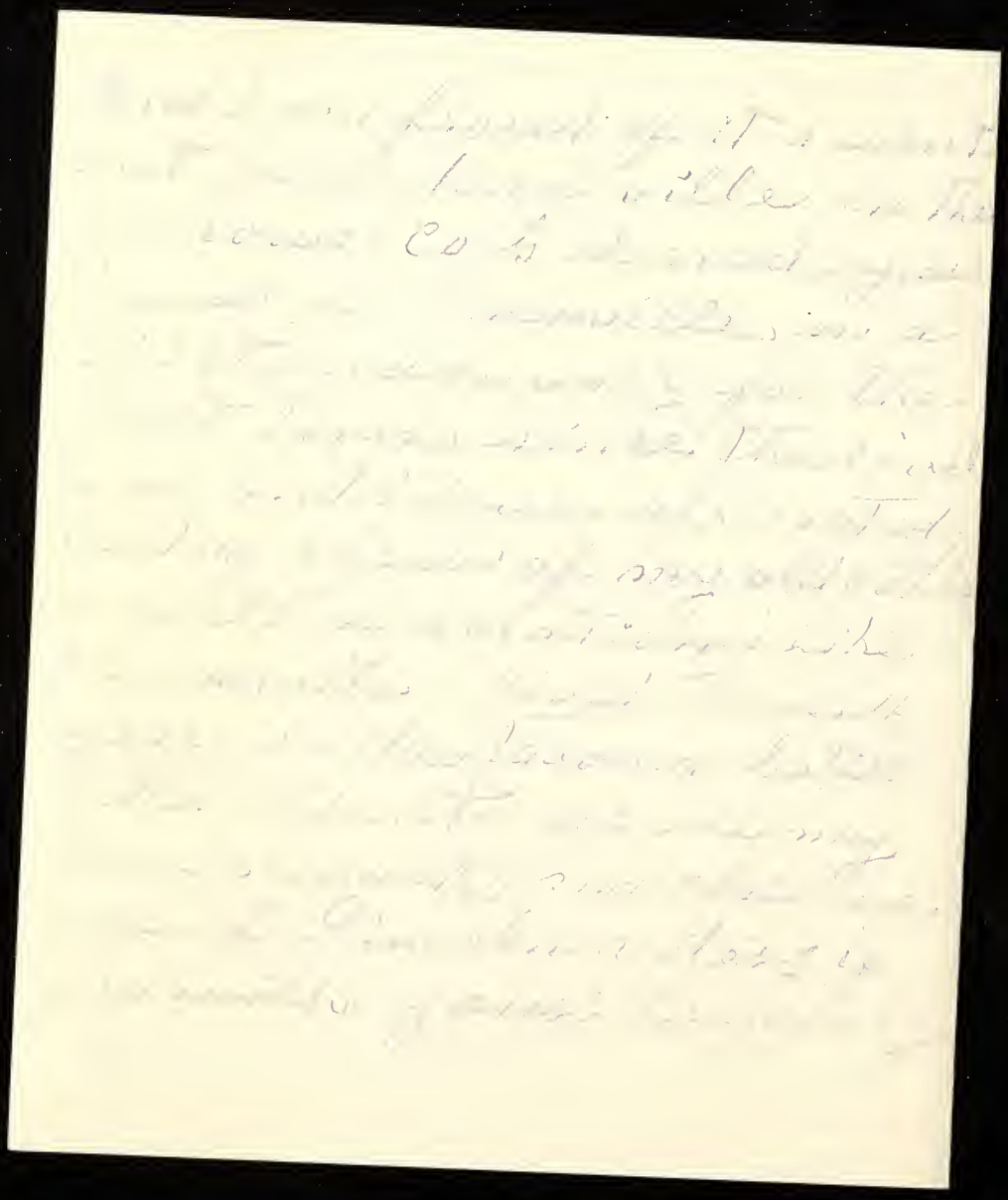
The Lincoln Series,
Volume I. Publications
by the Illinois Historical
Society — is
a volume that I
find very interesting.
Have you
read the story
of Father Chiniquy
and Lincoln's
defense of him?

Dear Mrs. Curtiss, yesterday's
package has only three
pictures & the other
one there.
Very truly yours,
Laura A. Sanders

Thursday, Illinois
20 September 1923

Tacoma Washington March
1918

To the Editor of the Knoxville
Journal Dear Sir as i read the
Journal and see so many
letters do you like to see
the boys over in France
that voted for us last Time
I don't wish to take it back
I voted the first Time for Hiss
in Knoxville the second Time
at last I will ask you to print one



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